(c) The implementation of the Scheme is reviewed through periodic reports and in the meetings of State Secretaries held from time to time.

Literacy among children

788. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any information about the percentage of literacy among children between fourteen years and below; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per data of Census 2001, literacy rate among children in the age group of 7—14 years was 77.7%. However, Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for the children in the age group of 6—14 years, in the year 2003-04 was 84.8%.

Educationally backward districts

789. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government maintain any list of educationally backward districts in the country;

(b) if so, their number and details including the names of districts; and

(c) whether Government have any special programme for educational advancement of these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Government have identified 105 Special Focus districts for giving priority in implementation of programmes/schemes of the Ministry Statement *(See* below*)*.

(c) Government accords priority to these districts in implementation of the major Schemes/Programmes.